GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:177
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2016
Poverty Alleviation
Choudhary Shri Ram Tahal

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether poverty is still one of the most important issues in India;
(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;
(c) the details of the schemes to alleviate poverty in this country;
(d) whether the Government is contemplating to change the norms of poverty in view of the changing situations in the country; and
(e) if not, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND
MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND
MINISTRY OF HOUSING & POVERTY ALLEVIATION
(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) & (b) Yes Madam. Reducing, ameliorating and ending poverty has been a major objective of the Government of India. Country has made significant progress in reducing absolute poverty in the past two decades. The share of the population living in poverty reduced to half between 1994 and 2012, falling from 45.7 percent to 21.9 percent. However, as per 2012 estimates, still 26.98 crore people are living below poverty line.

(c) The major poverty alleviation programmes of the Government of India in rural areas are Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihood Mission, Deendayal Upadhyay- Gramin Kaushlaya Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana −Gramin, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and National Social Assistance Programme. The poverty alleviation programmes in urban areas are Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana - Urban and Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Urban Livelihoods Mission.

(d) & (e) The Government is contemplating to use the Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC), 2011 data for the implementation of various poverty alleviation programmes.